# Overview of the AFRL/NASA Flywheel Program

"Advanced Energy Storage for NASA and USAF missions"









Aerospace Flywheel Workshop
19 October 2000



#### **Outline**



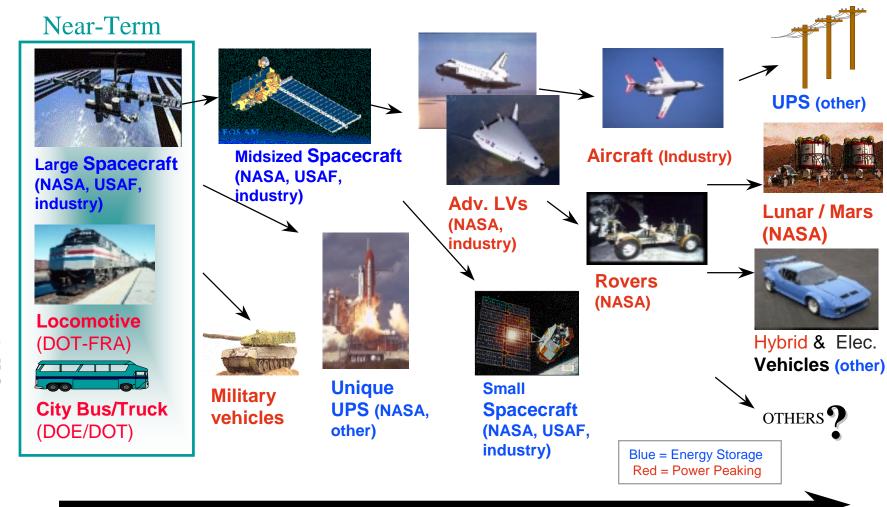
- Introductory remarks
- Applications and Goals
- AFRL/NASA Program
  - Flywheel Systems
  - Research & Technology Efforts
- Concluding Remarks





## **Applications and Goals**

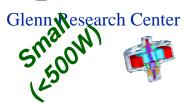


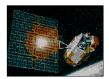




#### Like Batteries, No one size fits all







NASA Explorer, New Millenium, & Discovery Classes

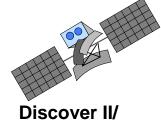




Small Rovers

Medium)





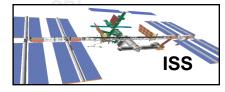
**Starlite** 





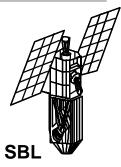














## Flywheel Technology Development Strategy



Increasing specific energy

Sub-critical Rotor designs, metal hub, large margins Super-critical Rotors, composite hubs, higher RPM/ Integrated mag bearings & motor/generators higher RPM, shunt capable, wider temp range

Incorporate advanced composite materials, improved magnetics, etc.

range range littles & applications
Increasing capabilities & applications



## **Technology Metrics/Goals**



Metric	Existing Battery Systems**	Flywheel SOA*	Flywheel Goals
Effective, Usable Specific Energy (SE) in LEO	<3 Whr/lb	~10 Whr/lb	>20 Whr/lb (Near Term) 100 – 200 Whr/lb (Long Term)
Cycle life (at above SE levels)	~30,000	TBD (estimated at 50,000)	>75,000
Energy Storage (turn around) Efficiency	68-80%	85%	>90%
Cost	\$0.5-3M	Comparable	> 25% reduction

<sup>\*</sup> Based on laboratory units extrapolated to flight configuration. Current TRL ~ 4.3-5.3

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes associated hardware (e.g., battery regulator)



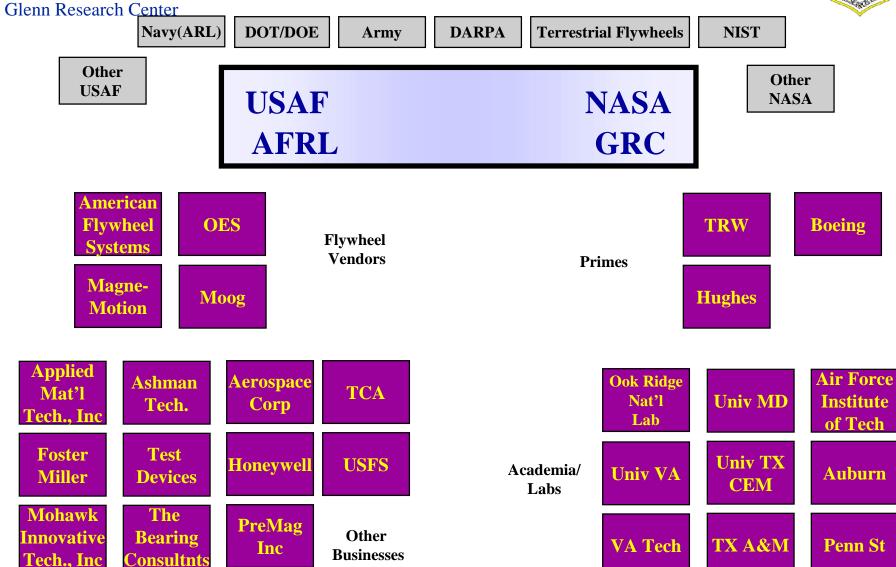


# AFRL/NASA Program Structure



## National Aerospace Flywheel Program Players







## 3 Legs of the AFRL/NASA Program



#### **SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT:** Guides Base R&T

- FESS 1<sup>st</sup> Unit Flight on the International Space Station
- FACETS Ground demo of integrated power and attitude control system (IPACS)

#### BASE R&T: Supports System Development

- Flywheel Testbed and Century Flywheel Development
- Component technology research
  - Bearing systems
  - Power train
  - Composite rotors
- Flywheel Rotor Safe Life Technologies Development

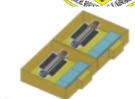
#### **GOVERNMENT FACILITIES:** Enables/Enhances System and R&T Work

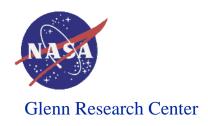
- Gov't facilities and experts work with industry and academia
  - flywheel testbed, bearing test rigs, electrical test beds, NDE, etc.
  - Leverage Technology Base (Aero & Space)













## **System Developments**



#### FLYWHEEL ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (FESS)



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#### **Objective**

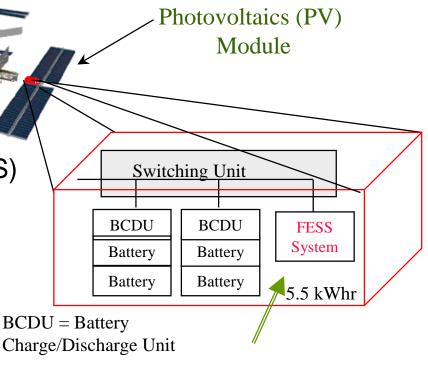
 Demonstrate flywheel energy storage, power delivery

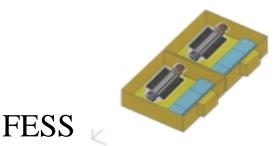
#### **Approach**

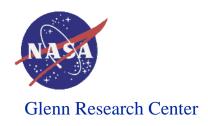
 Deploy flywheel energy system (FESS) consisting of a pair of counter-rotating flywheel units and operate for an extended period of time

#### **Status**

- GRC/UT-CEM/TRW Team
- Flywheel Module PDR, 9-00
- FY01: FM fabrication & breadboard avionics delivery
- . ISS SPEL Test in 2003
- Deploy 2006

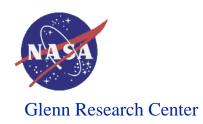








## **Research & Technology**



#### Flywheel System Test Bed



#### **Objective**

Build a testbed and lab test a FES system to gain experience w/ energy storage & single axis torque control as a foundation for mid-size wheel development

#### **Approach**

U.S. Flywheels/TRW Development Units(2)

- ~ 500 Whr
- Magnetic & mechanical bearings

NASA GRC Testbed

- dSPACE based developmental controls
- Single unit and air table capability

#### **Plans**

- Support FESS Development
- Demo single axis momentum transfer (2 Units)
- Support Century Flywheel technology evaluation





#### **Status**

- Unit #1 in test at GRC testbed facility
- Hardware upgrades in progress for 2 units



#### **Century Flywheel Program**



#### Objective

DEVELOP TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF "MID-SIZE" LEO SPACECRAFT (~700 W to ~4 KW) WITH ENERGY STORAGE REQUIREMENTS OF 300-700 WHrs

#### Approach

- PERFORMANCE GOALS ARE HIGH SPECIFIC ENERGY, HIGH EFFICIENCY AND LOW COST IN AN "IPACS" CONFIGURATION
- A PHASED IMPLEMENTATION OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES INTO A TARGET SYSTEM PROTOTYPE FOR SATELLITE APPLICATION
- COMPONENT TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IS LEVERAGED WITH NASA/AFRL NRA'S, SBIR'S AND CCDS GRANT'S

#### Plans In FY01

- DEFINE MISSION/SATELLITE REQUIREMENTS AND FLOW DOWN TO FLYWHEEL SYSTEM AND COMPONENTS IN COOPERATION WITH MISSION CENTERS AND PRIMES
- BEGIN CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF PROTOTYPE
- EVALUATE COMPONENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR USE IN FIRST UNIT

#### Status

INITIATING CONTACT WITH MISSION CENTERS AND PRIMES



#### **Base R&T Efforts for FY01**



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#### System Research

- Integrated System Design Tool
- System Momentum Control
- Real Time Simulation

#### Component Research

- Magnetic Bearings
  - **Advanced Bearing Control**
  - Passive (Repulsive) Bearings
- **Power Train** 
  - Optimized Mtr/Gen Control
  - Advanced Mtr/Gen
  - **High Speed Concepts**





#### Composite Rotors

- Rotor Safe-Life Program
  - Life Prediction Development
  - **Material Testing**
  - Rotor Cyclic Spin Testing
  - NDE Techniques
- Health Monitoring Development
- Composite Rotor/Hub Development
- Century-Class Rotor Design











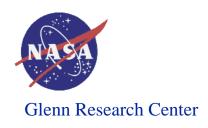


## **Concluding Remarks**



#### Glenn Research Center

- A broad range of NASA/USAF applications exist for which Aerospace Flywheels are a significantly enhancing or enabling technology – FES, IPACS, UPS, Peaking, Vehicles
- Exciting developments planned in 2001:
  - Rotor Safe-Life Program Implement Working Group
  - Flywheel Testbed 2 unit momentum mode test
  - FACETS Phase 2
  - FESS Development Flywheel Module Build
- Technology efforts will increasingly focus on smaller flywheels
  - Many missions need "century class" flywheels (100's of whrs)
  - The Century Flywheel Program will provide direction and focus to technology development
- The AFRL/NASA Aerospace Flywheel Program will continue to cooperate with other government agencies and to leverage other program opportunities such as; NRA's, SBIR's, NASA CCDS





## **Backup Slides**





### **Aerospace Flywheel Challenges**



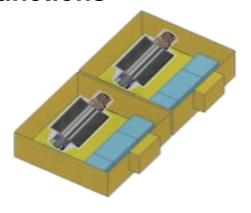
#### Flywheel Energy Systems



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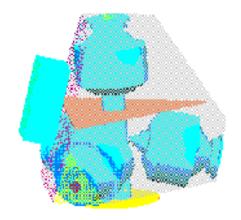
## Flywheel Energy Storage (FES)

- 2, counter-rotating Flywheels
- Energy storage
- Replace some Power Management and Distribution (PMAD) functions



# Integrated Power & Attitude Control System (IPACS)

- Array of  $\geq$  2 FWs
- Energy storage & Attitude control torque
- Replace some PMAD



E.g., A
Tetrahedral
Arrangement
of 4 FWs, or
4 pairs of
FWs



#### **Flywheel Components**



## Flywheel **System**:

Component interaction,
Space environment, Controls,
(micrometeoroids, etc).

#### **Enclosure:**

lightweight but stiff, spacecraft mechanical and thermal interface

#### **Motor/Generator:**

Reliability, efficiency

#### Thermal:

passive heat rejection, Esp.: Gimbal mounted concepts

#### **Magnetic Bearings:**

the key risk areas, also fault tolerance & design for IPACS

## Rotor (Rim, Hub Shaft):

High specific energy (super critical design?), Fatigue Life & "creep", safety W/O containment

#### **Auxiliary Bearings**:

High speed, high impact, life Esp.: Launch environment

#### — Electronics:

IPACS control algorithms, packaging for lightweight